

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the present patent application based on the following remarks are respectfully requested.

By this Amendment, claims 1 and 4-9 are amended and claims 2 and 3 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter therein. Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of claims 2 and 3. Claim 6 has been rewritten in independent form. Claims 8 and 9 have been amended to recite features similar to claims 2 and 3. Accordingly, after entry of this Amendment, claims 1 and 4-9 will be pending in the patent application.

The drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a). Specifically, it is noted in the Office Action that "Figure 3C shows the short stroke module to be at the center of the range of movement and not at a position proximate an extreme range" as recited in claim 5 of the present invention. In response, claim 5 is amended to recite that the control system is adapted to control the long and short stroke modules such that the short stroke module reaches a position proximate a center of its range of movement when the long stroke module reaches the scanning velocity, as shown in FIG. 3C. It is respectfully submitted that the amendment to claim 5 obviates this objection.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings are respectfully requested.

Claim 5 was objected to in the Office Action. In response, claim 5 is amended to remove "an extreme" and replaced with "a center" with respect to its range of movement. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 2, 8, and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,597,433 to Renkens *et al.* (hereinafter "Renkens"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 2 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, thus rendering moot the rejection of this claim.

Claim 1 is amended to recite the features of claim 3, which are noted as being allowable in the Office Action. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is allowable.

Similarly, claims 8 and 9 are amended to recite the features of claim 3. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claims 8 and 9 are allowable. Claim 8, as amended, recites a device manufacturing method comprising, *inter alia*, moving the object at a substantially constant scanning velocity during a scanned exposure; and controlling the short stroke module so that the object reaches the constant scanning velocity at or before the beginning of

the scanned exposure and controlling the long stroke module such that a driven end thereof reaches the scanning speed after the object has reached the scanning speed. Claim 9, as amended, recites a machine readable medium comprising machine executable instructions for performing a method comprising, *inter alia*, moving the object at a substantially constant scanning velocity during a scanned exposure; and controlling the short stroke module so that the object reaches the constant scanning velocity at or before the beginning of the scanned exposure and controlling the long stroke module such that a driven end thereof reaches the scanning speed after the object has reached the scanning speed. As noted at page 5, paragraph 4, of the Office Action, Renkens does not disclose, teach or suggest these features.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Renkens are respectfully requested.

Claims 4-5 and 7 are patentable over Renkens at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 1 and for the additional features recited therein.

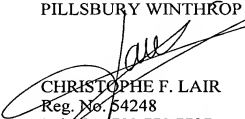
Claim 6 is rewritten in independent form. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 6 is allowable.

Applicant has addressed the Examiner's objections and rejections and respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. If any point remains in issue for which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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